

I would also like to commend President Bush's Administration for seeing what I have seen for some time. Kazakhstan wants to be a partner with the United States. They are an ally in the Global War on Terror and Kazakh troops have shed their blood alongside Americans in Iraq. As we work to secure our nation from terrorism, we should thank the Kazakhs for their sacrifice. Kazakhstan's military and economic security is linked to America's. I hope to see our nations walk together down a path of prosperity and stability.

It is with great enthusiasm that I look forward to Kazakhstan's continued success in the years ahead and wholeheartedly support the future strengthening of the U.S.-Kazakhstan strategic partnership. I am confident that with President Nazarbayev's leadership we will bring our two nations closer together.

Welcome to the United States, Mr. President.

#### DARFUR ACCOUNTABILITY AND DIVESTMENT ACT OF 2006

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2006*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Darfur Accountability and Divestment Act of 2006.

As a Member of Congress who traveled to Darfur and visited the refugees in camps along the Chadian border, I am confident that now is the time for a two-pronged approach of diplomacy and divestment to end the genocide in Darfur.

As many of you know, divestment was a successful tool in ending the apartheid in South Africa. Similarly, we must make sure that the federal government prohibits contracts to multinational businesses enterprises if they maintain business relationships and investments with Sudan and other national, regional, and local governments involved in genocide or participating in business activities with any warring parties or rebel groups perpetrating genocide.

Today, state legislatures, colleges, and universities are leading divestment campaigns to pressure the Khartoum regime and show the international community that to achieve an end to the fighting, peace, truth, and reconciliation are needed immediately in Darfur.

The hard earned money of American citizens should not be used to support a pariah government that is killing its own people and supporting terrorists.

State legislatures in Illinois, New Jersey, Oregon, and Maine have passed legislation mandating divestment of State funds from companies that conduct business in Sudan. California, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, North Carolina, Kansas, Wisconsin, Indiana, Georgia, Maryland, New York, Iowa, and Texas have considered or are considering legislation to divest State funds from companies that conduct business in Sudan. Connecticut, Ohio, and Vermont have passed nonbinding divestment legislation with respect to Sudan; and Arizona, Louisiana, Missouri, and Pennsylvania have adopted screening processes for investments in companies that conduct business in countries that are sponsors of terrorism, including Sudan.

Additionally, Students Taking Action Now: Darfur (STAND) has launched successful student campaigns across the country, driving their respective colleges and universities to divest from companies doing business with Sudan.

Amherst, Boston University, Brandeis, Brown, Columbia, Dartmouth, Harvard, Middlebury, Oberlin, Princeton, the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, Samford, Simmons, Smith, Stanford, Trinity, the University of California, the University of Maryland, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Southern California, the University of Vermont, the University of Washington, Williams, and Yale have all divested their funds from, or placed restrictions on investment of their funds in, certain companies that conduct business in Sudan.

The Darfur Accountability and Divestment Act applauds the divestment efforts of the state and local government, colleges, and universities.

Mr. Speaker, my bill would also require the Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) Division of Corporate Finance and the U.S. Treasury to require all companies listing securities on United States capital markets, either directly or through a parent or subsidiary company, including partly-owned subsidiaries, have business operations in a country with a genocide declared by the Department of State or Congress, to disclose the nature of their business operations.

The Darfur Accountability and Divestment Act of 2006 would require:

(1) The Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) Division of Corporate Finance and the U.S. Treasury to require all companies listing securities on United States capital markets, either directly or through a parent or subsidiary company, including partly-owned subsidiaries, have business operations in a country with a genocide declared by the Department of State or Congress, to disclose the nature of their business operations.

(2) The United States Government (federal) to prohibit contracts with multinational business enterprises if:

(a) They maintain business relationships and investments with national, regional and local governments involved in genocide; and

(b) They participate in business activities with the government or government entities.

(c) Exemptions for businesses who are working in areas of Sudan that have been neglected by the Khartoum regime (Darfur, Southern Sudan, Kordofan/Nuba Mountain State, Blue Nile State or Abyei) or who are providing immediate humanitarian assistance (delivery of food aid, road construction, basic sanitation, education, etc.).

(3) Recognition and support of:

(a) States and Cities that have divested or are in the process of divesting State and City funds from companies that conduct business in Sudan; and

(b) United States colleges and universities that have divested their funds from, or placed restrictions on investments of their funds in, companies that conduct business in Sudan.

(c) Provides preemption protection for states and universities who have sponsored their own divestment campaigns.

(4) Within 180 days, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to investigate the existence and extent of all Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board investments with na-

tional, regional and local governments involved in genocide; or business activities with any warring parties perpetrating genocide; or related to debt-obligations issued by the government of Sudan;

(5) The following reports not later than 60 days after enactment:

(a) The Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission shall report to Congress the names of the business enterprises and the details of their business operations in Sudan;

(b) And biannually thereafter, the Office of Global Security Risk shall report to Congress the names of the business enterprises and the details of their operations in Sudan;

(6) The Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to maintain and publish a list of the names of the business enterprises identified by the Securities and Exchange Commission as having ties with perpetrators of genocide.

Please join me in sending a message to the international community and out national pension funds that we do not want blood on our hands.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage you to lend your support to the Darfur Accountability and Divestment (DADA) Act of 2006.

#### TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW KENNEDY

**HON. JIM COOPER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2006*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute a man who has touched the lives of so many in my community of Nashville, as well as around the world, through his music and his commitment to sharing his talent with others.

Matthew Kennedy was born in the segregated South in 1921, the son of a strict, school teacher mother and postal worker father. Only months after his birth, his father dies of a heart attack leaving his mother on her own to care for the family. Despite the challenges, Matthew's mother is determined that her young son and will be able to take "serious" piano lessons with the town's white music teacher. The teacher agrees to lessons and in exchange Matthew and his cousin agree to clean her studio.

Even at this very young age, Matthew's talent is evident. The famous Russian pianist Sergei Rachmaninoff comes to his hometown of Macon, Georgia and Matthew and his mother somehow get tickets to hear the master from the segregated balcony. Matthew says his life was changed by that experience forever. Soon, Matthew is heading to New York, having won a scholarship to continue his music studies at the Julliard School.

While in New York he performs at Carnegie Hall and the Apollo Theatre. But before long he is on his way to Nashville. His Julliard teacher encourages him to return to the South to use his talents to help his people. Matthew arrives at Fisk University where he is welcomed by the director of the world-famous Fisk Jubilee Singers. He agrees to take on the role of piano accompanist for the Jubilee Singers and begins what will be a lifelong commitment to the school, the Jubilee Singers and his belief in the power of music.

Matthew Kennedy served as the director of the Fisk Jubilee Singers from 1957 to 1985.

During that time, he traveled and performed with them in the world's most famous concert halls in Europe, South America, the Middle East and the Caribbean. He influenced the lives of hundreds of young students during those years, and inspired thousands who witnessed his performances and his musical direction.

On this coming Monday evening, September 25, Matthew Kennedy will be honored at a special event at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. That evening Nashville will salute Dr. Kennedy at the premiere of a new documentary film that is a tribute and testimony to his accomplishments and talent. The film is directed by his daughter Nina, also a recognized pianist and filmmaker. It will be a special night for Dr. Kennedy and his family. But it will also be a special night for all Nashvillians and music lovers everywhere as we pause to celebrate the life of a truly gifted and generous artist and community leader.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
ON FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED  
AGAINST THE UNITED STATES  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2006*

Ms. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the men, women, and children who lost their lives in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on America and to honor the heroic efforts of our first responders on that fateful day.

It is more than fitting that the resolution before us today remember the innocent victims of September 11 and pay tribute to the countless first responders who at their own peril responded to the horror of that day.

It is unfortunate then that the Republican leadership has chosen this solemn time to play politics and divide this House by inserting into this legislation references to several controversial and partisan pieces of legislation.

It is true that Democrats and Republican disagree over the policies of the administration and the Republican leadership. These policy differences include the Republican budget cuts in time of war, the failure to ensure the safety of our seaports, the failure to fully inspect aviation cargo against terrorist attacks, and the failure to provide our first responders with critical resources and equipment to adequately respond to a disaster.

It is also true that Democrats have a new direction to address these and other security concerns and the failures of this administration to adequately prepare our country for another large scale disaster. But the Republican leadership dishonors the spirit of this solemn anniversary by including divisive language in this resolution.

Controversial issues, such as certain provisions of the PATRIOT Act and the Border Protection Act, have no place in a resolution that commemorates the events of September 11, 2001. And I deeply regret that my Republican colleagues have unnecessarily cast a shadow on this solemn anniversary.

On the fifth anniversary of the September attacks, let us remember 9/11 not with political shenanigans but by respectfully remembering those who lost their lives and by honoring them with legislation that provides real homeland security for the families and friends they left behind and all Americans.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SONS AND  
DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA ACT

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2006*

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak about an important piece of legislation I am introducing, the Sons and Daughters of America Act.

Families who have suffered the loss of a loved one are not able to grieve in peace with dignity and respect because of people who want more than freedom of speech. They want taxpayers' compensation for their legal fees when they challenge local, State and Federal laws. "We're going to get rich off the stuff they're doing. This is finger-lickin' good," one protestor said.

It is appalling that people would profit at the cost of the honorable men and women who have served our country with courage and valor. We should all be offended by their actions and take away any opportunity for financial compensation. Families should be allowed to grieve in peace.

Many States have been forced to pass legislation to ban the picketing and protesting of funerals, including military funerals, because of protestors who refuse families the right to mourn in peace. A protestor from my home State of Kansas sued city and state officials and was awarded a total of \$217,000 in attorney's fees.

That is why I am introducing the Sons and Daughters of America Act, which will provide legal protection against frivolous lawsuits directed at statutes prohibiting picketing at military and other funerals. We already have Son of Sam laws to ensure that murderers cannot profit off of their crimes. Unfortunately, it's come to the point where we need to ensure that those who violate the sanctity of mourning cannot profit from their callousness.

I am proud to introduce today the Sons and Daughters of America Act and ask my colleagues to support this bill.

INTRODUCTION OF MARGARET  
THATCHER CONGRESSIONAL  
GOLD MEDAL ACT

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2006*

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill with Congressman JIM MATHESON awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to Margaret Thatcher.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the Nation's highest and most distinguished civilian award. First presented to General George Washington in 1776, the Congressional Gold Medal is awarded to individuals who perform

outstanding acts of service to the security, prosperity, and national interest of the United States. Margaret Thatcher's distinguished service to the West included helping to win the cold war and reviving the economies of Europe. During her tenure as prime minister, America had no better ally.

Margaret Thatcher was the first female head of state of a Western nation, and the longest serving British prime minister in the 20th century. Soviet leaders called her the "Iron Lady." And so she was in the West's final chapter against the Soviet empire. The end of the cold war was due in no small part to her close partnership with the United States with the shared goal of defeating Eastern European communism.

Margaret Thatcher was a woman of principle and a strong leader. She resurrected a stagnant British political landscape and forever strengthened the Anglo-American relationship. For her unwavering friendship to the United States, I can think of no greater honor than bestowing on her the prestigious Congressional Gold Medal.

I want to thank my good friend Congressman JIM MATHESON for being the lead cosponsor of this legislation. I look forward to working with him and my other colleagues on this important initiative.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND  
IDEALS OF NATIONAL PERIPHERAL  
ARTERIAL DISEASE  
AWARENESS WEEK

SPEECH OF

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 19, 2006*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 982 which offers this Chamber's support for National Peripheral Arterial Disease Awareness week.

This year, National Peripheral Arterial Disease Awareness Week occurs September 18 through September 22 and gives us a time to reflect on the need for the increased education and awareness needed to promote early detection and the proper treatment of this disease.

Peripheral arterial disease, which is a narrowing of the arteries that results in reduced blood flow to the limbs, affects between 8 million and 12 million Americans. Americans suffering from peripheral arterial disease find themselves at increased risk for heart attack, stroke and lower limb amputation. Unfortunately, most cases of peripheral arterial disease are asymptomatic, causing too many Americans not to know that they have the condition.

That is why this resolution and this Chamber's support for National Peripheral Arterial Disease Awareness Week are so important. If we can shed light on this devastating disease, more Americans will become educated about their risk factors and get the early detection and treatment to avoid the painful heart attacks, strokes and amputations that too often befall our loved ones.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this important resolution.